I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: January 7, 2008

Electronic Signature for Michael B. Stewart: /Michael B. Stewart/

Docket No.: 65316-0008

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yuichi Takatsu

Application No.: 10/036,009 Confirmation No.: 2437

Filed: December 26, 2001 Art Unit: 3622

For: ELECTRONIC SETTLEMENT APPARATUS,

ELECTRONIC SETTLEMENT METHOD, STORAGE MEDIUM, AND COMPUTER

DATA SIGNAL

Examiner: D. Lastra

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Notice of Appeal filed August 7, 2007, Applicant now files a Request for Continued Examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims for allowance in light of the following:

A Listing of the Pending Claims is provided in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.